

Project Sussex Kids:
County Council for Young Children
Spanish Speaking Families Subcommittee Meeting

July 15, 2015; 1:00 PM
Project Self-Sufficiency

Welcome and Introductions: Haley McCracken; Project Sussex Kids coordinator, Hannah Kirby; PSS, Pam Madzy; Saint Kateri Migrant Ministry, Veronica Paris; DASI, Viviana Cabrera; Sparta Evangelical Free Church, Pastor Bob Kleinschmidt; Sparta Evangelical Free Church, Carmen Cintron; Sparta Evangelical Free Church

Subcommittee Meeting Review- May 2015:

- Action Items
 - Communication with Schools
 - Schools are open to have presentations and use their space whether it be in the gym or library to present on Project Sussex Kids
 - Kindergarten Orientations
 - Give out information about Project Sussex Kids
 - Are able to talk to the parents briefly
 - Make parents aware that Project Sussex Kids is a resource for them
 - PTO, PTA meetings
 - We have attended at least one of these meetings for most Sussex County primary schools
 - Area Back to School Nights
 - 40+ attended
 - Able to address all the parents at this night
 - Have a table, hand out pamphlets
 - Father Daughter/Sweet Heart Dances
 - Had a Father Daughter Dance at Clifton E. Lawrence in April
 - Over 90 dads attended
 - Had crafts, music, food, and were able to address dads
 - Planning on having more Father Daughter/Sweet Heart Dances during the upcoming school year
 - Special Education Advisory Groups
 - Presenting at the July 27, 2015 roundtable meeting
 - Parent Meetings
 - Tried to have one at Clifton E. Lawrence but no parents showed up just administrators came
 - Were able to do a needs assessment
 - Found out where we might want to hold these meetings (church, library)
 - Looking to do more of these meetings in the future

- Merriam Avenue School
 - Parent meeting for Spanish Speaking Families
 - Were able to present at this parent meeting about Project Sussex Kids
 - Start going to these meetings again in September
 - Linda Salerno- parent liaison
 - Susana Smith- Spanish speaking teacher
- Parent Café
 - Way to do a needs assessment
 - Had a Parent Café at the Mommy Party in June
 - Had both English and Spanish speaking mothers
 - There were translator present
 - All the mothers really liked the program
 - Want to keep having these both at Project Self-Sufficiency and throughout the community
 - Dates TBD
 - Provide dinner and childcare
- Developing a Protocol for working with pediatricians
 - Parent and pediatrician communication
 - Pediatricians to advocate about Project Sussex Kids
 - Have a plastic display board at pediatricians offices
 - Have questions on medical form
 - Pediatricians should hand parents information on resources
 - Talk with doctors about where we are going with Project Sussex Kids
 - Everyone always reads what the doctor hands to them
 - Spanish Speaking Doctors- Dr. Luis Pupo, Dr. Rajesh Raman, and Dr. Chris Canzinerio

Project Sussex Kids Website Update:

- Up and running
- Want the website to be very interactive
- Homepage
 - Enrollment forms both for Parents and Community Organizations
 - Able to have the forms available in Spanish?
 - Scrolling updated information
 - Upcoming meetings
 - Articles
- Purple band across the top of the homepage
 - Links to subtopics on the resource guide
 - Able to click on these links
 - Drop down menu for different ages
 - Link for Spanish Speaking Families
- Site map on the bottom of the website pages
 - Easy way to get where you want to go without having to go through the different topics
- Links to Project Sussex Kids social media sites

- Are we able to have a Spanish version of the website?
 - Makes it easier
 - Less intimidating for parents

Parent Training:

- Kris Imbrie will be training volunteers
- Research curriculum
- Coming from the mind-body approach
- Taking children into account
 - Anxiety
 - How to talk to children
- Skeleton mission statement and tweak for different topics
 - Drug/substance abuse
 - Difficult children
 - Special Needs children
- Speaking on different topics at schools topic based events
 - Provide dinner and childcare
- Condensed version of Kris Imbrie's presentation
- Would like to have volunteers train to do these presentations

Discussion Items:

- Development of the Project Sussex Kids Resource Guide
 - Get parents resources quickly with minimal frustration
 - Available ages prenatal through age 8
 - Want to find local resources at childcare centers, pediatricians, churches, etc.
 - Sample of the letter we will be sending out shortly to agencies and a form for the agencies to fill out
 - Want to find out what programs are available at these agencies
 - Information changes and new programs start so we want to stay up to date with current information
 - Resource guide will be available throughout Sussex County
 - Both in hard copy and online so it can be updated frequently
- Central Intake
 - 1800 number housed at Project Self-Sufficiency
 - There will be a live operator answering the phone
 - Will filter referrals for community resources
 - Assessment, home visitation, case management
 - Available through age 18
 - Get where you want to be in the shortest time
 - Easier for parents to access since there is one simple number to call
 - There will be a resource guide binder at Project Self-Sufficiency that the operators will use
 - Possibly to have a bilingual operator?
- SPAN Seminars
 - Starting in October through May
 - Skipping December

- 6 workshops
 - In the evening on the first Tuesday of the month
 - Dinner and childcare will be provided
 - Holding seminars at Project Self-Sufficiency
 - Basic Rights, Early Education, Early Literacy
 - Early Literacy is lacking with children that are entering kindergarten
- Hudson Maxim School Resource Fair
 - Make parents aware of the services available
 - At the event have many vendors
 - Possible at the Durban Avenue School (4-5 grade level)
 - Larger gym
 - More parking
 - Have at the end of September or early October in the evening around 6:30 PM
 - Have resource fairs at other schools, libraries, and community centers

Comments, Questions, Suggestions, and Outreach Ideas:

- Where to go to get information on Project Sussex Kids to Spanish Speaking Families?
 - Schools (beginning of the school year packets, have a table at dismissal)
 - Childcare centers
 - Have parent meetings
 - Churches
 - Get information into bulletin
 - Printed and online versions
 - Local agencies
 - Provide hard copies so they are able to post throughout their agency
 - Laundromat
 - Grocery store
 - Radio advertisement
 - Mexican Store and Mexican Restaurant
 - Located on Spring Street
 - Have these flyers in Spanish
 - Home Visitation Program
 - Sparta Junior Women's Club
 - Public Health Nursing
 - Newton Pool
 - NORWESCAP WIC offices
 - Early Headstart
 - Luz Quintero
 - ESL classes
 - Veronica Struck
 - Neighborhood Health Services
- Project Sussex Kids magnet with number and website
- Small card with Project Sussex Kids information
- Immigration information
 - People need to be able to trust a person and the agency in order to open up

- Lis Schuman may know more information
- Repetition
 - Target a specific group
 - It only takes 6 weeks to get the word across
 - Always better to reinforce information

****Next Project Sussex Kids Spanish Speaking Families Subcommittee meeting: September 17, 2015**